(b) if so, what decisions were taken there; and

(c) whether any informal discussions took place between him and his counterparts belonging to different countries on the Indian Sub-Continent with regard to regional problems; if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The meeting discussed current political and economic issues in preparation for the NAM Summit scheduled to be held at Belgrade in September. It also addressed itself to ways and means of revitalising the role and methodology, the format and content of documentation and the effectiveness of the instrumentalities of the Non-aligned Movement.

(c) The External Affairs Minister had informal discussions with many of his counterparts including those from neighbouring countries. These discussions covered bilateral, regional and international issues.

Stoppage of some Express trains at Ganj Basoda

1764. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to stop some Mail Express trains as 137/138 Up Chhatishgarh Express/G.T. Express at Ganj Basoda on Central Railway; and

(b) if so, the time by which this facility is likely to be provided ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Stoppage of Malwa Express has been provided from May, 1989.

(b) Provision of stoppage of additional express trains is presently not justified.

Late running of trains

1765. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some trains like the Sambalpur-Express, the Hirakhud Express, the Utkal Express and Sambalpur-Jharsuguda passenger are regularly running late causing a lot of inconvenience to the passengers;

(b) what is the number of days during the period from 1st January 1989 to 15th April 1989 when these trains had reached their destinations late;

(c) what are the reasons of their late running; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government for their punctual running ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir, not after May, 1989.

(b)	5	Sambalpur Exp.	95 days
	6	"	78 "
	47	Hirakhud Exp.	42 "
	48	"	42 "
	77	Utkal Express	92 "
	78	"	69 "
	1	JS passenger	65 "
	2	JS "	42 "

(c) Miscreants' activities including agitations, alarm chain pulling etc., accidents and some equipment failures.

(d) Dieselisation of Raipur-Visakhapatnam section and delinking of 17/18 Express alongwith intensive monitoring.

Allotment of Contracts to SC/ST Persons

1766. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :